

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION
AUTHORIZING CITIES AND TOWNS WITH A
POPULATION IN EXCESS OF 5,000 TO BE
INCORPORATED BY SPECIAL ACT.

S. J. R. No. 6.] SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.

To amend Article 11, Sections 4 and 5, of the Constitution of the State, authorizing cities and towns within the State of Texas to be incorporated by special Act where the population exceeds five thousand inhabitants.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. That Article 11, Sections 4 and 5, be amended so that the same shall hereafter read and be as follows:

Section 4. Cities and towns having a population of five thousand or less may be chartered alone by general law. They may levy, assess and collect an annual tax to defray the current expenses of their local government, but such tax shall never exceed for any one year one-fourth of one per cent, and shall be collectible only in current money, and all licenses and occupation taxes levied and all fines, forfeitures, penalties and other dues accruing to cities and towns shall be collectible only in current money.

Section 5. Cities having more than five thousand inhabitants may have their charters granted or amended by special Act of the Legislature and may levy, assess and collect such taxes as may be authorized by law, but no tax for any purposes shall ever be lawful for any one year which shall exceed two and one-half per cent of the taxable property of such city; and no debt shall ever be created by any city or town unless at the same time provision be made to assess and collect annually a sufficient sum to pay the interest thereon and create a sinking fund of at least two per cent thereon.

SEC. 2. That the above and foregoing proposed amendment shall [be] duly published once a week for four weeks commencing at least three months before a special election to be held for the purpose of voting upon such proposed amendment on the first Tuesday in August, 1909, in one weekly newspaper of each county in the State of Texas in which such a newspaper may be published, and the Governor be, and he is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation for the submission of this proposed amendment to the qualified voters for members of the Legislature.

At such election all persons favoring such amendment shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "For the amendment to Article 11, Sections 4 and 5, of the Constitution," and those opposed thereto shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "Against the amendment to Article 11, Sections 4 and 5, of the Constitution."

SEC. 3. That \$5000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of advertising and holding the election provided for above.

[NOTE.—The enrolled bill shows that the foregoing Resolution passed the Senate by a two-thirds vote, yeas 22, nays 1; and passed the House by the following vote, yeas 92, nays 13.]